

June 15, 2000

FDA Commissioner Jane Henney
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061 (HFA-305)
Rockville, MD 20852

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RE: Docket No. OOP-1211/CP1

Dear Commissioner Henney,

I am writing to add my comments to the official rulemaking docket (#OOP-1211/CP1) demanding that the FDA develop thorough pre-market and environmental testing and mandatory labeling for genetically engineered foods.

We have the right to know the kinds of alterations being performed on our food; this information has been denied too long. The public has overwhelmingly and consistently indicated that they want to know if their food has been genetically engineered. I encourage the FDA to make this information available before the protests reach the height and severity of those in Europe.

I am deeply concerned that the government does not require mandatory pre-market safety testing of genetically engineered foods. Without these requirements, we will not know if new toxins or allergens are being introduced, or if levels of existing toxins in these new foods are increased. Additionally, the effects of antibiotic resistant genes remains unclear, and may pose a health risk.

Your recent announcement on this subject as part of the Clinton administration's proposal does not go far enough and is not in the public's best interests. I want to know what chemicals and biotechnologies have been used in my foods before I ingest them. I urge you to make this information available so the American public can make educated choices.

Sincerely, OOP-1211

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